

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed October 1, 2007, has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 1-67 are cancelled. Applicants reserve the right to pursue cancelled subject matter in future continuing applications. New independent claim 71 and new dependent claims 72-79 have been added. No new matter has been added. Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.

Support in Specification for New Claims

Claims 71, 72, and 75-79 are supported by, for example, Fig. 19E of the application and the related description in paragraphs [00121] through [00127] on pages 30-31 of the current specification. Claims 73 and 74 are supported by, for example, Fig. 19E of the application and the related description in paragraphs [0058] through [0061] on pages 11-12 of the current specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

In the Office Action, claims 48-67 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meckley et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,267,628) in view of Fair et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,250,964). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As noted above, claims 48-67 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, rendering the rejection moot with respect to these claims. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the above rejection over these claims. Withdrawal of the above rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, claims 68-70 have been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notification.

Patentability of New Claims

As mentioned above, a new independent claim 71 and dependent claims 72-79 that depend from claim 71 have been added. It should be noted that the features recited in the new independent claim 71 are similar to and parallel the features recited in independent claim 68, which has been allowed. Allowance of new independent claim 71 and dependent claims 72-79 that depend from claim 71 is hereby requested.

None of the references of record, including Meckley and Fair, either by itself or in a reasonable combination with another, discloses or suggests a telecommunications device having all of the features recited in claim 71. Specifically, neither Meckley nor Fair discloses or suggests a telecommunications device comprising a panel including a first end and a second end with mounting flanges at the first and second ends thereof, the mounting flanges including fastener openings for mounting the panel to a telecommunications rack, the panel including a first plurality of jack receptacles and a second plurality of jack receptacles, the second plurality of jack receptacles being positioned entirely below the first plurality of jack receptacles, wherein the first plurality of jack receptacles define a first set of gaps between the jack receptacles thereof and the second plurality of jack receptacles define a second set of gaps between the jack receptacles thereof, the jack receptacles of the second plurality of jack receptacles being centered directly below the first set of gaps defined between the jack receptacles of the first plurality of jack receptacles such that none of the jack receptacles of the second plurality of jack receptacles include portions that overlap with the jack receptacles of the first plurality of jack receptacles located directly above the second plurality of jack receptacles and the jack receptacles of the first plurality of jack receptacles being centered directly above the second set of gaps defined between the jack receptacles of the second plurality of jack receptacles such that none of the jack receptacles of the first plurality of jack receptacles include portions that overlap with the jack receptacles of the second plurality of jack receptacles located directly below the first plurality of jack receptacles.

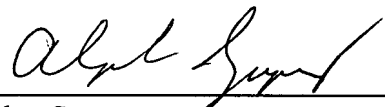
Thus, for at least the above reason, new independent claim 71 and dependent claims 72-79 that depend from claim 71 are patentable and in condition for immediate allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. Although certain arguments regarding patentability are set forth herein, there may be other arguments and reasons why the claimed invention is patentably distinct. Applicants reserve the right to raise these arguments in the future. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that the prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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